12th September 1946]

(c) what the market rate for the gunnies per yard was according to the controlled price during the months of January, February, March, April and May 1946;

(d) whether any gunnies were bought during these months for the Government Stationery Stores; and

(e) if so, at what price?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—

" (a) About 6,000 yards a year.

" (b) The gunnies were purchased in the open market till 31st May 1946 and through tender from 1st June 1946.

" (c) Rupees 33–10–0 for a piece of 100 yards.

" (d) Yes.

" (e) At Rs. 33–10–0 per 100 yards."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know whether that was the market rate for the gunnies at that time? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—

" It must have been, Sir."

Using of baskets in Government Stationery Stores, Madras, for packing.

* 78 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether baskets were at one time extensively used for packing purposes in the Government Stationery Stores;

(b) whether the baskets were condemned as unsafe for packing articles for despatch from the Government Stationery Stores;

(c) if so, whether the use of the baskets has since been given up;

(d) whether, when sufficient planks were available for packing during the months of April and May 1946 baskets were bought; and

(e) if so, why?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—

" (a) Yes.

" (b) No.

" (c) The question does not arise.

" (d) & (e) Planks were not easily procurable at that time. Empty packing cases were received from various Government offices of the Presidency which were utilized for packing. In addition to this baskets were also bought for packing purposes to meet the demand."

Certain class of workers regarded as menials paid from contingencies in Government Sationery Stores, Madras.

* 79 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether any workers in the Government Stationery Stores, whose work is of a permanent and continuous character, are regarded as menials paid from contingencies;